

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A customizable computerized system for providing access to specified Internet websites and comparable alternative websites utilizing telephone numbers as search queries, comprising:

means for storing data comprising Internet domain names for available websites, and telephone numbers corresponding to said websites, and data regarding products or services offered by said websites in a database;

means for receiving a system user search query for a specified Internet website in the form of a telephone number corresponding to said website's proprietor;

means for processing said user search query to provide access to said specified Internet website in response to said query;

means for providing customizable criteria for comparison of said specified website with other websites;

means for providing, in response to said telephone number query, a referential directory of said additional websites that are comparable alternatives to said specified Internet website based on said comparison of said data regarding products or services offered by said specified website and said additional websites, in addition to said specified Internet website, said additional Internet websites being further selected based on said customizable criteria, said referential directory listing both the website name and telephone number for said additional Internet websites~~means for providing a referential directory of additional Internet websites that are comparable to said specified Internet website, based on one or more customizable criteria for comparison;~~ and

means for providing access to said additional Internet websites displayed in said referential directory.

2. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising means for processing changes to Internet website addresses such that access to said websites is provided in response to user queries using either a prior address or a changed address.

3. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising means for displaying to users content from said Internet websites in a standardized format.

4. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said customizable criteria are provided by electronic communication from said user.

5. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said customizable criteria are preprogrammed into said system.

6. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said means for providing a referential directory of additional Internet websites that are comparable to said specified Internet website, based on one or more customizable criteria for comparison comprises one or more databases containing data regarding characteristics of a plurality of Internet websites and one or more software applications that select said additional websites based on comparison of data pertaining to said specified website and data pertaining to said additional websites.

7. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the geographic location of the proprietors of the websites being compared.

8. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the products or services offered by the websites being compared.

9. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the prices for products or services offered by the websites being compared.

10. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the type of content provided by the websites being compared.

11. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the date of publication of content provided by the websites being compared.

12. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising means for receiving a system user search query for a specified electronic mail recipient in the form of a telephone number corresponding to said recipient;

means for processing said user search query to provide information pertaining to said recipient; and

means for sending electronic mail to said recipient.

13. (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said means for sending electronic mail to said recipient further comprises means for sending said electronic mail to multiple alternate electronic mail addresses corresponding to said recipient, said alternate electronic mail addresses being selected based on customizable criteria.

14. (currently amended) A method for providing access to specified Internet websites and a referential directory of additional websites that are comparable to said specified Internet website, based on one or more customizable criteria for comparison, utilizing telephone numbers as search queries, comprising the following steps:

gathering and storing data comprising Internet domain names for available websites, and telephone numbers corresponding to said websites, and data regarding products or services offered by said websites in a database;

receiving a system user search query for a specified Internet website in the form of a telephone number corresponding to said website's proprietor;

providing customizable criteria for comparison of said specified website with other websites;

processing said user search query to provide access to said specified Internet website;

selecting additional websites that are comparable alternatives to said specified Internet website based on said comparison of said data regarding products or services offered by said specified website and said additional websites, said additional Internet websites being further selected based on customizable criteria;

displaying to said user and a referential directory of said specified Internet website and said selected additional websites that are comparable to said specified Internet website, based on one or more customizable criteria for comparison, in response to said query; and

providing access to said additional Internet websites.

15. (currently amended) A customizable computerized system for providing access to specified Internet websites and comparable alternative websites, comprising:

means for gathering and storing data comprising Internet domain names for available websites, and telephone numbers corresponding to said websites, and data regarding products or services offered by said websites in a database;

means for receiving a system user search query for a specified Internet website, wherein said user search query is in the form of the telephone number for the proprietor of said specified Internet website;

means for providing customizable criteria for comparison of said specified website with other websites;

means for processing said user search query to provide access to said specified Internet website in response to said query;

means for selecting additional websites that are comparable alternatives to said specified Internet website based on said comparison of said data regarding products or services offered by said specified website and said additional websites, said additional Internet websites being further selected based on customizable criteria;

means for providing, in response to said telephone number query, a referential directory of said additional websites. said referential directory listing both the website name and telephone number for said additional Internet websites in addition to said specified Internet website; and a referential directory of additional websites that are comparable to said specified Internet website, based on one or more customizable criteria for comparison; and

means for providing access to said additional Internet websites.

16. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein search user query is in the form of a Domain Name.

17. (original) The system of Claim 15, further comprising means for processing changes to Internet website addresses such that access to said websites is provided in response to user queries using either a prior address or a changed address.

18. (original) The system of Claim 15, further comprising means for displaying to users content from said Internet websites in a standardized format.

19. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein said customizable criteria are provided by electronic communication from said user.

20. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein said customizable criteria are preprogrammed into said system.

21. (previously amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein said means for providing said referential directory of additional websites that are comparable to said specified Internet website, based on one or more customizable criteria for comparison comprises one or more databases containing data regarding characteristics of a plurality of Internet websites and one or more software applications that select said additional websites based on comparison of data pertaining to said specified website and data pertaining to said additional websites.

22. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the geographic location of the proprietors of the websites being compared.

23. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the products or services offered by the websites being compared.

24. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the prices for products or services offered by the websites being compared.

25. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the type of content provided by the websites being compared.

26. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein said one or more software applications select additional websites based on comparison of information regarding the date of publication of content provided by the websites being compared.

27. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 1, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

including said website proprietors' information in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors free of charge to said website proprietors.

28. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 1, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 27, further comprising the step of including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 27, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 28, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 29, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 27, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 28, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 29, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 27, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 28, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 29, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

39. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 1, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 39, further comprising the step of including said website proprietor's information in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors free of charge to said website proprietors.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 39, further comprising the step of including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 39, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 40, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 41, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 39, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 40, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 41, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 39, wherein said enhanced information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 40, wherein said enhanced information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 41, wherein said enhanced information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

51. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 1, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor;

including said website proprietor's information in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors free of charge to said website proprietors;

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor; and

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

52. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

53. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, wherein said enhanced information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

54. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 51, wherein said enhanced information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

55. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 15, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

including said website proprietors' information in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors free of charge to said website proprietors.

56. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 15, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

57. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 55, further comprising the step of including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search

results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

58. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 55, further comprising the step of including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

59. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, further comprising the step of including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for queries for comparable website proprietors in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

60. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the system of Claim 15, comprising the following steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor;

including said website proprietor's information in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors free of charge to said website proprietors;

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor; and

including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for comparable website proprietors in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

61. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

62. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 57, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

63. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

64. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 59, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

65. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 60, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

66. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

67. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 57, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

68. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

69. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 59, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

70. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 60, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

71. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

72. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 57, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

73. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

74. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 59, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

75. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 60, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

76. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the method of Claim 14, comprising the following additional steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

Including website proprietors' information in system search results for user queries for comparable websites free of charge to said website proprietors.

77. (Withdrawn) A method utilizing the method of Claim 14, comprising the following additional steps:

Including at least one website address and corresponding telephone number for each available website proprietor in said system's searchable data free of charge to said website proprietor, for retrieval by system users in response to a user query for said website proprietor; and

Including enhanced information with respect to a website proprietor in system search results for user queries for said website proprietor or other similar website proprietors in exchange for payment of consideration therefor by said website proprietor.

78. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 77, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional website addresses for said website proprietor.

79. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 77, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises one or more additional telephone numbers for said website proprietor.

80. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 77, wherein said enhanced website proprietor information comprises providing said information in emphasized form.

81. (New) A customizable computerized system for providing access to specified Internet websites and comparable alternative websites utilizing telephone numbers as search queries, comprising:

means for gathering data comprising Internet domain names for available websites and telephone numbers corresponding to said websites and data regarding products or services offered by said websites in a database;

means for providing a full directory of said websites linked to said corresponding telephone numbers;

means for receiving a system user search query for a specified Internet website in the form of a telephone number corresponding to said website;

means for processing said user search query to provide access to said specified Internet website in response to said telephone number;

means for selecting additional websites based on comparison of said data regarding products or services offered by said specified website and said additional websites;

means for providing, in response to said telephone number query, a referential directory of said additional websites that are comparable alternatives to said specified Internet website based on said comparison of said data regarding products or services offered by said specified website and said additional websites, in addition to said specified Internet website, said additional Internet websites being further selected based on customizable criteria, said referential directory listing both the website name and telephone number for said additional Internet websites; and

means for providing access to said additional Internet websites displayed in said referential directory.

82. (New) A method for providing access to specified Internet websites and providing a referential directory of comparable alternative websites in addition to said specified Internet websites utilizing telephone numbers as search queries, comprising the following steps:

Obtaining and storing in a database data comprising Internet domain names for all available websites and telephone numbers corresponding to said websites and data regarding products or services offered by said websites;

providing a full Internet-based directory of websites linked to said corresponding telephone numbers;

receiving a system user search query for a specified Internet website in the form of a telephone number corresponding to said website;

processing said user search query to provide access to said specified Internet website in response to said query;

selecting additional Internet websites that are comparable alternatives to said specified Internet website based on comparison of said data regarding products or services offered by said specified website and said additional websites;

displaying to said user a referential directory listing of a further selection of said additional Internet websites based on customizable criteria, in addition to said specified Internet website, including both the telephone number and website address for each said website; and

providing access to said additional Internet websites.